

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR/East Germany REPORT [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

SUBJECT Withdrawal of Soviet Officials from East Germany DATE DISTR. 5 August 1955

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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1. A Soviet advisor to the DDR Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is reported to have said that an unidentified deputy of Soviet Ambassador Pushkin told him confidentially that most Soviet officials in the DDR, except holders of diplomatic passports, will be out of Germany within a year.¹ No new Soviet officials are arriving for permanent assignment, and a steady reduction in force of the Soviet High Commissioner's (sic) office has taken place.²
2. The wife of an unidentified Soviet correspondent in Berlin who is returning to the USSR is reported to have said that many of the Soviets who are apparently going to the USSR on leave are actually unknowingly being returned to the USSR permanently.

Comments

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1. From the context [REDACTED] it appears that the Soviet advisor himself does not now hold a diplomatic passport but expects to receive one in connection with the new policy.
2. It is not clear whether the Soviet advisor or Pushkin's deputy originated this sentence, but it probably is another statement by Pushkin's deputy, quoted by the Soviet advisor. It is also not clear whether the absence of arrivals of new officials applies to the Soviet Zone of Germany as a whole or only to the High Commissioner's (sic) office.

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